

"DO THOU LIBERTY GREAT. INSPIRE OUR SOULS AND MAKE OUR LIVES IN THY POSSESSION HAPPY, OR OUR DEATHS GLORIOUS IN THY CAUSE."

BENNETTSVILLE, S. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1903.

NO. 19.

TILLMAN'S WORK

In Settling the State's Account With the United States.

STORY OF THE TRANSACTION.

The State's Debt of \$249,750 is Wiped Out and a Balance of \$80,137.70 Due to the State is Paid.

Through the efforts of Senator Tillman more than anyone else, as we stated last week, the State treasury is now \$89,137.86 better off than it has been. This is the amount of the net claim collected from the United States Government by Senator Tillman. Senator Tillman on a recent visit to Columbia presented the warrant and receipt in person to Governor Heyward. The impression has been that Senator Tillman collected less than \$100,000, but, as a matter of fact, he settled with the United States Government by Senator Tillman. Senator Tillman on a recent visit to Columbia presented the warrant and receipt in person to Governor Heyward. The impression has been that Senator Tillman collected less than \$100,000, but, as a matter of fact, he settled with the United States Government by Senator Tillman. Senator Tillman on a recent visit to Columbia presented the warrant and receipt in person to Governor Heyward. The impression has been that Senator Tillman collected less than \$100,000, but, as a matter of fact, he settled with the United States Government by Senator Tillman.

This warrant and these bonds have been obtained by my receipting the United States in full for the claim of the State of South Carolina, which grew out of the expenditures by the State on behalf of the United States Government during the war of 1812-1815.

I have been working on this matter for the past four years and a brief statement of the facts may be of interest to you and to the people of the State.

When the expenses attending the equipment of the volunteers for the Spanish war were being provided for by Congress in 1898 attention was directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to the fact that South Carolina was indebted to the United States on account of the Indian trust fund, the same being the amount of the bonds above mentioned, and the request was made by the secretary that Congress give him the authority to collect said amount. Without my knowledge, or, in fact, the knowledge of anyone, a provision was sneaked into the conference report on the appropriation bill, authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to settle the account of the State of South Carolina for the collection of the debt. Demand was made upon Governor Ellerbe for settlement and he referred the matter to me, and I at once set about trying to secure an adjustment of the account of the State for the old claim of 1812-15.

It required an immense amount of work and research to get track of the necessary papers. We had to investigate the settlement in the war department and rummage through volume after volume of Treasury reports, accounts of the various reports of committees, etc. My own time was too much occupied with other necessary business with which I have to deal to do more than give general directions. The main work of that kind in the case was performed by Mr. James M. Baker, assistant librarian of the State of South Carolina, and a citizen of South Carolina, whose home is at Lowndesville. Mr. Baker worked zealously and indefatigably both while Congress was in session and after its adjournment, so that at the next succeeding session I was prepared to demonstrate that instead of South Carolina being in debt to the United States, the boot was on the other foot, and that we would be only too glad to have a settlement. In the mean time suit had been begun by the Attorney General for the United States and a summons was directed to the Governor to answer the suit. I submitted all my evidence, based entirely upon official documents emanating from the Treasury department, and secured from that committee a favorable report on a bill to authorize an adjustment and accounting between the State and the United States, in which was included a claim for a balance due the State on account of money expended during the Indian war of 1812-15. The bill passed the Senate without opposition, but was held up in the House. I tried to get it on the appropriation bill, but it was ruled out on a point of order, and the only thing I could accomplish was to have the law authorizing suit against the State repealed.

That year this claim, along with a similar one from Virginia, and including the City of Baltimore, was placed on what is known as the omnibus claim bill, but the situation in regard to Virginia's debt was different from ours, and Senator Martin, without my knowledge, incorporated a provision which was very advantageous to Virginia, but without his knowing it, worked great wrong to our State. Under the terms of this act the auditor for the war department made up the accounts and practically balanced them, making the bonds of the respective States offset the claim of each. The difference in the cases arose from the fact that Virginia's bonds were not due until 1894, and in order to have the accounts balance, as the two interest-bearing funds were different, they would have to go back prior to the maturity of the bonds several years, thus making Virginia a donor of about \$150,000. In our case the wrong consisted in charging interest on our bonds after maturity. I at once appealed from the decision of the auditor and had the matter revised by the comptroller of the treasury, and he was able to make the case balance even nearer than the auditor had done, reducing the amount to 34 cents, but he also stated that the bonds at the date of their maturity amounted, principal and interest, to

\$249,750, while the State had at that time in the treasury \$205,906, and it has since been recognized by Congress, leaving a balance of \$47,215, and thus I had the basis of getting more equitable settlement.

I succeeded in obtaining the consent of the appropriation committee to incorporate an amendment in the deficiency bill, providing for the payment of this balance, with interest at 4 per cent. from the 1st of January, 1881, to date. A very strong fight was made by the House committee on appropriations against allowing this item out, while the Senate conferees and all the Senators familiar with the facts supported the justice of the claim and insisted on its retention, it was only after six hours of argument in the committee that at 2 o'clock the night of March 3 an agreement was reached. I will say that I had made up my mind that there were seven other claims of an identical character, involving several millions of dollars in the bill, that I felt so outraged at the seeming injustice and sectional animosity, that I served notice that I would talk the last twelve hours of the session, whatever the other filibustering was necessary to secure justice for my State. I felt that if the item went out that it would never be possible during Mr. Cannon's incumbency as Speaker to obtain redress or get what was due, so I decided I would take the responsibility of doing it. I was not alone, however, I would tamely submit to such wrong. In conclusion, I desire to suggest it will be an act of graceful recognition and of simple justice to Mr. Baker that the Legislature should recognize his invaluable service by appropriating a small amount of money, say \$1,000, out of that which has been obtained. His work was not done with this idea, however, but he is poor and has a growing family, and the State can well afford to pay him handsomely. Yours truly,

R. L. Tillman.

P. S.—To save express charges for the transmission of the bonds, worth as they are in the market fifty cents on the dollar of their face value because of their being refundable, I requested that all of the bonds and coupons should be sent by express, and I deem it nothing less than an elementary duty to the State that these obligations of the State that have been thus redeemed should be treated as all similar bonds are. They come to you in this shape simply as evidence and as a part of the State's debt which has been paid. It is a report on the history of the United States Government, but the money by not refunding these bonds at fifty cents on the dollar in 1881, the same as any other of our creditors. There would have been issued in lieu thereof, practically the same amount of bonds and the interest on these for twelve years at 4 per cent. would amount to \$145,000. The State has saved this interest and has only had to pay about \$124,000 to redeem the bonds at their face value. As a matter of interest to the Legislature I enclose you a copy of my speech in the Senate yesterday, giving the history of the transaction, with the official records. It was made in answer to Mr. Cannon's speech and in justification of the Senate's action and my own part in the transaction. I should be obliged if you would transmit it to the Legislature when it convenes again.

Even up to the very last, as will be seen by the following letter, certain of the officials in Washington tried to hold down the claim by allowing only two days' interest, but Senator Tillman would not consent to any such business. The letter follows:

Treasury Department, Office of Comptroller of the Treasury, Washington, March 5, 1903.

The Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury—Sir: At your request, and under your direction, I have re-examined the account of the State of South Carolina against the United States, as settled by the auditor for the war department by certificate No. 31,891, wherein he allowed the State the sum of \$47,245.77 together with two days' interest.

This audit was made under the terms of the following provision of the Deficiency Act, which was approved and became a law on the 30th inst, viz: "To pay the State of South Carolina for balance found due from the United States to said State, according to the computation made by the comptroller of the treasury up to January 1, 1881, as stated in his letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated February 21, 1903, \$47,245.77, and interest upon the same at 4 per cent annum until paid."

The force of this language is disavowed by Congress by the State of South Carolina the sum of \$47,245.77 and interest thereon from the 1st day of January, 1881, up to the date of the approval of this Act.

The Act, which sets out the sum, yet it clearly appropriates the interest thereon as if it had been set out in specific figures. It is the same as if a Court should render a judgment for a specific sum and the interest thereon from a date certain. The amount of the judgment is simply a matter of calculation, so the amount of this appropriation is simply a matter of calculation.

The auditor will therefore restate this account and allow the State of South Carolina the further sum of \$11,881.61, being the interest on said sum of \$47,245.77, at 4 per cent, from said 1st day of January, 1881, up to the approval of said Act. A credit certificate of difference will issue for said amount.

Respectfully,
R. J. Tracwell,
Comptroller.

Invitations Gate.

The governor has received an invitation from J. B. McBride, supervisor of Florence county, to be present at a meeting called for the purpose of forming good roads' associations on March 16. He was compelled to decline. An invitation was also received from the chairman of the board of visitors of the Citadel to deliver the annual address at the encampment at Rock Hill on June 16. The annual meeting of the society of charities and connections will be held in Atlanta this year, May 6-12, and the governor has been invited to attend and to appoint delegates.

A BIG FAKE

Deal in Pennies as a Result of a Smart Advertisement

OF A WASHINGTON MERCHANT,

Who Offered "18 Cents for 1002 Pennies," and by Which Many Speculators Were Caught.

Recently a clothing store in Washington advertised that it would pay at noon Saturday, the 7th inst., "18 cents for 1002 pennies, and because of this advertisement practically all the pennies in the piedmont section of North Carolina and in a good many towns in upper South Carolina have come into the possession of a few speculators. The fact that the advertisement was not a bonafide proposition, but a play on words, did not become known until Wednesday, when it was discovered that, thousands of 1902 coppers had changed hands after a big premium had been paid.

The following is the story as told by the Charlotte Observer:

For a week or ten days it has been currently rumored in this city that a Washington agency wanted the pennies in question, and it was said that the agency was acting for the government, which wished the pennies received because it had been found that in coining them a large quantity of gold had been accidentally spilled into the molten copper.

The absurdity of the rumor seemed to impress no speculator, and for the last four or five days penny-buying has been going on here at a great rate.

Early last week Mr. Edwin B. Gresham, of the firm of Gresham & Company, the well known railroad eating house concern, collected all the 1902 pennies he could in banks and other business places in Charlotte. He got the pennies at their real value and before the report of the premium-giving had become widespread. A day or so after his purchase Mr. Gresham sold to the baggage Agent Sonner of the Southern railway 330 pennies for \$33, and Sonner stated that the next day he sold the pennies to a bank in Alexandria, Va., at 15 cents apiece.

Mr. Gresham worked assiduously and collected many hundred other pennies, but he was able to sell none of them at a profit. He still has on hand enough copper to make life-sized statues of both the mayor and the recorder.

Mr. Gresham was not the only man who bought pennies in large quantities. Tom Rowland, the popular conductor on the Stateville road, devoted a large part of his time to collecting and did not hesitate in his speculative operation until Wednesday.

Half a dozen other Charlotte men, men in near-by South Carolina towns, and residents of Salisbury and other places in this State, made wide search for last year's coppers.

The movements of the speculators had its natural effect, and for a week 1902 pennies have been selling high; jumping from two and a half and three cents each to five, seven and ten cents apiece.

The knowledge that the advertisement was inserted with intent to deceive did not reach here until Wednesday. It was said that bags holding over 6,000 pennies belonging to speculators in this section, reached Washington Saturday morning, and, keeping company with copper that came from many other sources, were about to be taken to the clothing store with a small pocket derringer. It was stated by those in a position to know in that community that had health and financial troubles no doubt led to his decision to end his life. Mr. Logan was about 50 years of age. Also that his son and five children. He was a son of Frank, about grown. It is a noteworthy coincidence that this place was the scene of the suicide of one of the earliest settlers of that community, namely, Dr. Chapman, who committed suicide in what is now a tenement house in that yard of this place, about 50 years ago. Also that this was the fourth suicide within a radius of a mile and a half within the last ten years. All the suicides were white farmers and all over 50 years of age.

A Tillman Dinner.

The Charleston correspondent of the State says: "A letter has been received from Senator Tillman, accepting the invitation of a number of business men to attend a dinner, to be given to him, in recognition of his services to that city in many matters pertaining to the railroads. The dinner is to be held at the Hotel Charleston. The function is yet to be put in shape. During his stay in Charleston, Senator Tillman will be the guest of Mr. Henry P. Williams, cashier of the Charleston Savings Bank, at his elegant home on East Battery."

The Senate Committee on Commerce Thursday decided to postpone action on the nomination of Dr. W. D. Crum, to be collector of the port at Charleston, S. C., until next Thursday.

The suggestion for postponement was made by Senator Gray. There are a number of vacancies on the committee and he urged that the committee should not act until these were filled. It is now believed by the opponents of Dr. Crum that another meeting of the committee will not be held during the present session.

Kettle Bridges.

Perhaps the most remarkable bridges in the world are the kettle bridges in Russia and Siberia, of which Cossack soldiers are expert builders. They are built up of the soldiers' lances and cooking kettles. Seven or eight lances are placed under the handle of a number of kettles and fastened by means of ropes to form a raft. Each of these rafts will bear the weight of half a ton.

Plagues Them.

The southern press is unanimous in commending Gov. Heyward's treatment of the Wisconsin race problem convention plan. The northern papers maintain an eloquent silence.

Murdered Seven People.

The second trial of A. E. Watson, charged with the murder of seven members of the Earl family near Welsh, La., was concluded there Thursday evening, the jury finding the accused guilty as charged. Watson took the verdict quietly. For a second time he will be sentenced to death.

EXCHANGE OF RIFLES.

Soon the State Militiamen Will Have Their New Brags.

Adjutant-General Frost recently visited Washington to see if he could not arrange with the war department for an immediate exchange of old for new rifles and uniforms for the militia, saving the freight bills for two shipments.

He called to see the secretary of war in company with Senator Latimer, and was received by Assistant Secretary of War Sanger in the absence of Secretary Root. Gen. Frost says he was warmly received and after going over the provisions of the new act of congress it was determined that the South Carolina could at once proceed to exchange the Springfield rifles and cartridges for the new Krag-Jorgensen magazine rifles. The regulation will go forward shortly.

The secretary of war has been so busy since the adjournment of congress that he has been unable as yet to place contracts for the furnishing of the new regulation olive drab uniforms, consequently they will not be issued for some time. The department, however, has allowed Gen. Frost to make requisition for khaki uniforms and campaign hats for the State militia for the summer. This requisition will be sent on at once. The present blue uniforms will be continued in the service until the olive drab suits are available.

Gen. Frost asked for authority to loan to certain schools in the State, not having commands of his own, some of the old Springfield rifles. He was informed that this could not be done; that the law only allows the war department to loan rifles to military academies having regular army officers stationed at them as commanders.

Under the Dick act also the exchange of equipments provided for applies only to rifles and cartridges and not to tents or camp equipment. Gen. Frost also made inquiries about the stationing of an army officer in the office of the adjutant general. Secretary Root's return the department will determine whether to detail active army officers to these positions or retired officers.

Gen. Frost talked interestingly of the new uniform regulations of the army. There will henceforth be three styles of uniforms for officers. The first will be the full dress, with frock coat and gold braiding in abundance, heavily gold braided cap and chevrons. The latter will never be worn while the officer is in the saddle. The dress uniform will be exactly like the present blue fatigue uniform, with the exception that the caps will have bell crowns. The infantry officers will no longer wear the blue stripes on their trousers, but a lighter shade of blue instead.

The new olive drab uniform will be the same for officers as for privates save that a small strap will be worn by officers on each shoulder, and the leggings will be leather instead of canvas. No trouser stripes will be worn by officers with this uniform.

It is the latter uniform that will be used exclusively in the service in this State. The members of the governor's staff alone will wear the dress uniform. All other officers will wear the olive drab regulation. "The State Takes Its Own Life."

J. W. Logan, a white farmer living at Phoenix in Edgecombe county, committed suicide Wednesday by shooting himself in his right temple with a small pocket derringer. It was stated by those in a position to know in that community that had health and financial troubles no doubt led to his decision to end his life. Mr. Logan was about 50 years of age. Also that his son and five children. He was a son of Frank, about grown. It is a noteworthy coincidence that this place was the scene of the suicide of one of the earliest settlers of that community, namely, Dr. Chapman, who committed suicide in what is now a tenement house in that yard of this place, about 50 years ago. Also that this was the fourth suicide within a radius of a mile and a half within the last ten years. All the suicides were white farmers and all over 50 years of age.

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A MAN KILLED

By His Automobile Running Over Edge of High Embankment.

DASHED TO PIECES ON ROCKS.

His Wife, Who Was With Him When the Terrible Accident Happened, is Seriously Injured.

Buffalo, N. Y., has another sensational case. Recently one of her prominent citizens by the name of E. T. Burdick, was found murdered in his residence, and up to this time the police has been unable to locate the murderer. Yesterday afternoon Arthur R. Pennell, who is the chief clerk in the investigation of the Burdick murder, was hurriedly heading into the city. Mr. Pennell was riding in his electric automobile with Mrs. Pennell. They were on Kensington avenue near Fillmore avenue, skimming along the edge of the Gehrs stone quarry, a huge rock-filled hole in the ground. Mr. Pennell's car blew off. The automobile swerved and in some inexplicable manner it leaped over the curb into the abyss below. Pennell was killed instantly, his head being crushed to an unrecognizable mass. Mrs. Pennell was injured so severely that the surgeons at the Sisters hospital, to which she was taken, say her chances of recovery are very slight.

Two boys saw the tragedy. They were too far away to know positively just how it happened. Mrs. Pennell when found was unable to speak. She was then only a few minutes taken to the hospital and could speak no coherent words. After the operations performed immediately by Dr. Eugene Smith in the hope of saving her life, she lapsed into unconsciousness and hence there can be no true version of precisely how the affair occurred.

Mr. Pennell left his office in the Austin building at 4.05 o'clock. He went to his home at 208 Cleveland avenue. A friend who called up Mr. Pennell on the telephone about 5 o'clock was informed that Mr. Pennell was in but that he was going for a drive. Mr. Pennell himself answered the telephone and said that he would be back between 6.30 and 7 o'clock, making an appointment with his friend for that hour.

"Would 6 o'clock do?" he was asked. "Oh, Well, you might come at 6 o'clock, but you better making it later," he replied.

These were the last words Pennell was known to speak to any one except Mrs. Pennell, save that he went back to the stairs and called out to Lizzie Romanow, the maid: "Lizzie, we will see each other between 6 and 7 o'clock." When he and Mrs. Pennell rode away in the car.

It was learned that the matter mentioned in the telephone talk was something he considered most serious and which weighed heavily upon him. It was in connection with the Burdick murder.

Recently Mr. Pennell made the following statement: "A bout this case of Burdick, I have told the authorities I went away to New York before the murder and that I met, Mrs. Burdick while I was away. In fact I saw Mrs. Burdick near New York two or three days before the murder. I have told it frankly and the meeting was a private one. But they seem to be determined to drag all the business out in the papers. I would do anything to stop it."

Pennell and his wife left their home at 4.50 o'clock or one or two minutes before that time. It was a gloomy afternoon and rain was falling. It took his wife some time to get into the lonely northeast corner of the city at such an hour.

Pennell was not a veteran at automobile driving. Yet he was an expert at handling the machine and was experienced as to its management. What was unusual about the proceeding was that the maid, who was that Mrs. Pennell had always before told her when they would return. Today, however, said the girl, "when they went out it was Mr. Pennell who told me."

Mrs. Pennell has been loyal to her husband throughout his trying experience during the last ten days. She frequently told her friends that she was unshaken and that she would stick to him to the end. Pennell's body was received at morgue shortly after 8.30 o'clock. The features of the dead man were distorted and out of all semblance to their natural appearance. In the pockets were found some money and newspaper clippings and identification cards from two insurance companies.

Mrs. PENNELL DIES.

Mrs. Arthur Pennell died at the Sisters of Charity hospital Wednesday night, at 8 o'clock. For hours the surgeons worked over the unconscious form of the injured woman. A faint twitching of the eyelids or a murmur of pain were the only signs of returning consciousness perceptible during the 24 hours the injured woman was in the hospital ward. Except for a few incoherent words uttered when she was first taken to the hospital Mrs. Pennell's lips did not move.

He Will Hang.

The decision of the United States Court in refusing to reverse the decision of the Supreme Court of South Carolina in the case of the State vs. John Brownfield, who murdered Mr. Scurry, at Georgetown in 1899, fixes his doom. The murder was the direct cause of the Georgetown riot. Brownfield has been in jail ever since the tragedy, and if it had not been for the efforts of a colored lawyer he would have met his fate on the gallows a short time after the occurrence. The case was carried to the Supreme Court on the plea that the negro had not received justice as there were no negroes on the grand jury, while three-fourths of the population of Georgetown County are negroes. Judge Holmes said there was no proof of the allegation, and sustained the decision of the State Court. As this is the last resort Brownfield will have to go to the gallows.

A Greedy Snake.

Noticing a large cobra with a small portion of a snake's tail hanging out of its mouth, a resident of Caylon killed the reptile. During the death struggles the cobra disgorged three-fourths of a rat snake. The resident hauled out the rest, and on taking measurements, found the cobra to be 4 feet 8 inches long, and the rat snake it had tried to swallow 5 feet 2 inches.

Big Families Wanted.

Representative Blumke, the Philadelphia Record reports, has introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature "a bill which provides that the State shall give a gold medal worth from \$10 to \$20 and an equal sum of money to every mother of six or nine children. The idea being to encourage the bringing of large families into the world."

SENSATIONAL MURDER CASE.

A Young Woman Tried for Killing A Young Man.

Marion had quite a sensational trial last week, in which Miss Josephine Burns was tried for murder. Miss Burns is a young white woman of Nichols and is on trial for killing Dustin H. Sarvis, a young telegraph operator at Nichols in last November. Since the tragic occurrence she has been in North Carolina, but duly appeared for trial.

She was remembered that at the time of the killing it was stated by the accused that she had been secretly married to Sarvis several months prior to that time and that she had gone to see him at the depot in Nichols to insist upon his announcing their marriage; that he refused to do so, became angry, shot her in the head with a pistol and then shot himself, dying instantly. The verdict of the coroner's jury was in accordance with this statement.

The theory of the prosecution is to the effect that she shot the deceased and then attempted to commit suicide, the testimony of the State witnesses being that he saw her shoot herself. She was wounded in the forehead, the ball narrowly missing the brain. There was some delay in forming a jury so many jurors stating they had expressed an opinion on the case. Naturally much interest was manifested but no new sensational features have been developed. The court room was filled with a crowd of spectators. The young lady was acquitted by the jury.

The Wheel Exploded.

A dispatch from Sumter to The State says Mr. John P. Laughery was seriously injured in an accident, resulting in his death Friday night, which happened at the plant of the Locomotive Company Friday afternoon, about 4.30 o'clock.

Laughery had gone to the saw mill and was standing up by the engine when it ran away, the governors refusing to check the speed of the fly wheel, which was 10 feet in diameter. Mr. Laughery sprang towards the engine, but the steam when the explosion came, threw him into the air and he fell into the water. One piece of the wheel flew upward and tore a large hole in the roof, and another section struck a wheel about 15 feet distant, and although the other wheel was running at 26 inches in diameter, tore it to pieces. Some parts of the wheel landed on the ground, and others were blown away from the scene of the accident.

Fooled With Beer Rabbit.

Last week an old negro captured a rattlesnake and sold it to Dr. McLeod, of Macon, Ga. who was visiting in the city. On Saturday he placed a live rabbit in the cage to see what the snake would do with it. The snake would not notice the rabbit till he was molested, and then he attempted to bite the rabbit, but only succeeded in getting his mouth full of fur. Sunday night the rabbit seemed to be well, but not so Monday morning. The rabbit was well, but the snake was far from well. He was minus his head and part of his neck. The flesh being gnawed entirely off of the bone for several inches next to his head. His rattles were beaten to pieces, supposedly in his fight with the rabbit, and the door of the cage was covered with blood, showing that the rabbit had killed him, and not that he had eaten the snake after it had died a natural death, as there would have been no blood. The rabbit seems to be none the worse for the fray.

The Old Negro.

Senator Tillman has on his plantation in South Carolina a negro named Joe Gibson, who has lived with him for thirty years. Joe looks like a white man, and he takes care of everything in Mr. Tillman's absence. And speaking of this man the other day the Senator said: "I do not know whether I belong to Joe or Joe belongs to me. Anyhow, we have been together for thirty years and we have agreed to live together till one or both of us dies, and when I go away, if I go first, I know he will shed as sincere a tear as any body. I would die to protect him from injustice and wrong." This is one of the old time negro gentlemen of whom we have often spoken. They are an honor to the race and to the State.

A Pitched Battle.

A desperate battle between the hands of two turpentine farms took place near Orange Springs, Fla., last week. A contention arose about a matter of little importance between some of the negro laborers of Megs' camp and those of Law's camp. This aroused the fury of the entire crowd and precipitated a fight which ended in a general battle. The report is that eight men were killed and a large number of others wounded.

Want's His Medal.

The governor recently received a letter from Mr. Elmer H. Moore of New York asking for information in regard to medal given the members of "the glorious old Palmetto regiment" which fought so gallantly in Mexico in 1847. These medals evidently were voted before the Civil war, for Mr. Moore declares that he never got his "because, I presume, as to the uncertainty as to my whereabouts, or because of the occurrence of our Civil war." Mr. Moore was life major, or principal musician, of the regiment and his name is enrolled with Company H. There are living not more than two score of these gallant men who made up the regiment which attracted so much attention to South Carolina on account of its fearless charges up mountain steep.

AN OIL FIRE

In New York Claims Twenty or More Victims.

Twenty or more lives were lost and fully twice that number of people burned or bruised by an explosion of oil late Tuesday night, following the wreck on the Erie railroad, north of Olean, N. Y. Owing to the fact that some of the bodies were incinerated in the fierce flames or blown into the creek by the explosion, the exact number of dead will probably not be known for several days.

The number of injured, too, is uncertain, as a large number of them were able to reach their home and received treatment there. Nine of the recovered bodies have been identified as residents of Olean, four of the children being boys under seventeen years of age. The injured are all young boys of Olean and the neighboring towns. Dozens of others, who were not carried to the hospitals were burned more or less severely.

It was nine o'clock in the evening when the train was wrecked. An Erie freight train, loaded with oil cars, broke in two on the hill two miles north of the city. At first the forward part of the train, released of the weight of the cars behind, sprang forward with increased speed. Brakes were applied and the front portion of the train was brought almost to a standstill at the iron bridge across Olean creek. The flames, gathering momentum as they moved down the hill, crashed into the forward part of the train. The tank-cars caught fire soon after the collision and burst into flames with a terrific explosion. A portion of the iron domes of the cars was buried a few feet under the ground. The tank-cars caught fire and burst into flames with a terrific explosion. A portion of the iron domes of the cars was buried a few feet under the ground. The tank-cars caught fire and burst into flames with a terrific explosion. A portion of the iron domes of the cars was buried a few feet under the ground.

Suddenly there was a terrific explosion. A great mass of white steam shot hundreds of feet into the air and literally rolled down the banked sides of the track into the gully where the spectators were standing. Men and boys fell before the wave of light to the ground. Huge pieces of iron were hurled through the air, moving down human beings by the score. Men and boys with their clothing a mass of flames ran shrieking down the track, some of them falling to the ground unconscious, while others groveled in the ditch or jumped into the creek in an endeavor to put out the fire that was consuming them.

Distillery Captured.

A dispatch to The State from Greenville says Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock Constables Altman, Wiley and Bell, with Deputies Phillips and Putnam, left the city with the intention of finding a blockade distillery, and went 22 miles to the Middle Saluda river, where they discovered what they were expecting, and took possession of a large still which was being put in readiness for operation. Included in the steam boiler, three fermenters and 500 gallons of beer. The officers knew in advance that this was a portable affair and that the still had two localities, a half mile apart. They went to the place and found a number of fermenters. The still was near the residence of Beattie, and there was a path from one to the other. The officers raided the still at midnight and spent only an hour or so in the vicinity, but it required seven or eight hours to reach the city again as the roads do not allow fast traveling.

Killed on the Skyscraper.

The first fatality in connection with the erection of the skyscraper in Columbia occurred early Thursday morning, when William Dixon, a colored laborer, was instantly killed by an elevator. There are three elevators used in the building and they run from the first to the twelfth floor and back at lightning speed. According to the testimony of witnesses, Dixon had just leaned over the elevator shaft to speak to some one in the cellar when the elevator came down. He was killed instantly. As soon as the accident was seen the engineer raised the elevator and the body was taken out. The head and face were horribly mutilated, but there were no other injuries, and death must have been instantaneous.

A Daring Scheme.

Fierce struggles with stowaways armed with knives were reported by the captain of the American steamer Margherite which arrived at New York recently from Mediterranean ports. "Three days out from Messina," said the captain, "four fellows came on board, getting 8650 a month. They drew the comfortable salary of \$85,000 a year. As the Sultan's right-hand man, he has conducted many campaigns in the Sahara, and is the only Christian that has openly crossed the Gambia pass and visited the sacred tomb of Mullah Ali Sherief, in the Fouta district. The regular army has a command number of about 20,000 with an irregular militia of